

Goals and Objectives

Through the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative program residents of the Spartan Keyes neighborhood have developed a vision for their community. This vision is the basis for a comprehensive strategy to improve the living environment for present and future residents. The goals and objectives in this section were developed to provide specific direction for the *Neighborhood Plan* in achieving the vision. The *Neighborhood Plan* was developed concurrently with the *East Gardner Specific Plan*, which results in an overlap of goals and objectives that strengthen both efforts. The *Neighborhood Plan* expands upon the land use framework created for the East Gardner area to include the greater community of Spartan Keyes. The goals and objectives below address proposed development in the *East Gardner Specific Plan* area as well as issues and concerns throughout the rest of the neighborhood.

Goals and objectives relate to specific problems, concerns, or desires identified by the community and the Neighborhood Advisory Committee during the development phase of the *Neighborhood Plan*. Goals will guide the efforts by the Spartan Keyes community and City Departments over the long-term, and act as a baseline to gauge progress. The goals and objectives are organized under five main headings: neighborhood circulation and parking; neighborhood parks and open space; neighborhood condition and maintenance; neighborhood security; and neighborhood development. Goals are numbered and generally identify what should be achieved. Objectives are lettered and describe specific ways of achieving the goal.

Neighborhood Circulation and Parking

1. **Vehicular Circulation:** Calm traffic throughout the neighborhood and discourage cut-through traffic on local neighborhood streets as feasible.
 - a. Conduct a neighborhood traffic calming study that evaluates neighborhood traffic patterns, volume and speeds and recommends traffic calming measures.
 - b. Implement traffic calming measures as appropriate throughout the neighborhood.
 - c. Explore possibilities for routing truck traffic around the neighborhood.
2. **Pedestrian and Bicycle Circulation:** Improve pedestrian and bicycle circulation within the neighborhood and to adjacent districts and nearby destinations.
 - a. Complete the Coyote Creek trail between Kelley Park and Interstate 280.
 - b. Evaluate and improve major intersections for better coordination between vehicles and pedestrians.
 - c. Upgrade crosswalks where appropriate to encourage pedestrian activity.

- d. Enhance pedestrian routes to elementary schools in adjacent neighborhoods.
 - e. Improve conditions at neighborhood bus stops
 - f. Create safe and well-defined bike routes to destinations within and adjacent to the neighborhood.
3. **Neighborhood Parking:** Mitigate the parking effects from San Jose State University, Spartan Stadium, and related special events at adjacent recreational facilities.
- a. Assess the current and projected volume of non-residential vehicles, focusing on SJSU student parking and Spartan Stadium events.
 - b. Evaluate the feasibility and desirability of residential parking permits in portions of the neighborhood.
 - c. Increase vehicle abatement efforts to remove illegally parked and abandoned automobiles.

Neighborhood Parks and Open Space

1. **Neighborhood Parks:** Develop community parks to serve neighborhood residents.
- a. Develop a park within the Story Road landfill area, with pedestrian connections to the proposed Coyote Creek Trail.
 - b. Acquire site and develop a neighborhood park within the East Gardner Specific Plan area.
 - c. Provide passive and active recreation opportunities at no cost with a focus on open spaces oriented to young children and teens.
 - d. Incorporate community facilities such as a community or fine arts center into open space where appropriate.
2. **Remnant Open Spaces:** Improve and maintain remnant open spaces.
- a. Develop and maintain unused parcels for general beautification or community gardens to improve neighborhood appearance.
 - b. Develop a program for trash collection and weed abatement in remnant open spaces.
 - c. Add landscaping to undeveloped spaces adjacent to freeway.

3. **Community Gardens:** Maintain and expand the community garden network.
 - a. Provide maintenance support for local community gardens.
 - b. Promote community gardening and assist neighborhood outreach efforts.

Neighborhood Condition and Maintenance

1. **Street Improvements:** Improve the appearance and physical condition of neighborhood streets.
 - a. Reconstruct curbs, gutters, and sidewalks as needed to improve pedestrian circulation.
 - b. Improve visibility of pedestrian crosswalks with clear striping and signage where appropriate.
 - c. Improve street lighting to increase pedestrian safety and visibility.
 - d. Add street trees where appropriate to improve streetscape appearance and add value to residential properties.
2. **Noise:** Reduce noise levels produced by the adjacent freeway and on-street truck traffic.
 - a. Assess outdoor and indoor decibel levels in areas adjacent to transportation corridors.
 - b. Evaluate the feasibility and desirability of soundwalls along freeway frontages.
 - c. Explore ways to mitigate noise produced by truck traffic.
3. **Residential Properties:** Build on the existing traditional neighborhood character through improvements to residential properties.
 - a. Increase Code Enforcement resources to reduce the improper use of residential properties and provide more timely attention to vehicle abatement.
 - b. Preserve the historical and traditional neighborhood character through application of residential design guidelines.
 - c. Promote City programs available to homeowners for residential property improvements, such as the Homeowner Grant Program and the Residential Paint Program.

Neighborhood Security

1. **Anti-Social Activity:** Reduce anti-social activity within the neighborhood.
 - a. Work with SJPd to identify key neighborhood security issues and improve response time to residents' complaints.
 - b. Facilitate organization of resident support groups such as neighborhood watch and coordinate community efforts with the SJPd.
 - c. Improve maintenance and lighting in alleys, parking areas, and freeway underpasses to deter illegal/anti-social activity.
2. **Freeway Crossings:** Improve conditions beneath and adjacent to freeways to increase safety and create a more pedestrian-friendly environment.
 - a. Add lighting to freeway underpasses to improve pedestrian safety and discourage anti-social behavior.
 - b. Enhance safety at freeway on and off-ramps to improve pedestrian circulation to destinations outside of the neighborhood.
3. **Homeless Population:** Reduce the number of homeless encampments under and along I-280, Keyes Street, and along the rail spur.
 - a. Deter homeless encampments in the neighborhood.
 - b. Maintain City-owned, undeveloped open spaces to reduce the opportunities for encampments to occur.

Neighborhood Development

1. **Public Facilities:** Encourage development of public facilities within walking distance of the neighborhood.
 - a. Evaluate the feasibility of constructing an elementary school within or directly adjacent to the neighborhood.
 - b. Encourage arts-oriented public and private facilities to support and expand the existing arts community.
 - c. Develop a community center to provide opportunities for recreation and neighborhood activities for residents of all ages.

2. **Land Use Policy:** Adjust land use policies to encourage neighborhood-oriented commercial development and infill residential development.
 - a. Encourage relocation of auto-related and light industrial businesses to other areas within the City.
 - b. Promote neighborhood-oriented commercial uses along Keyes Street and encourage viable uses and businesses to remain.
 - c. Encourage reuse and renovation of historic warehouses for residential, commercial, and/or public uses.
 - d. Discourage light and heavy industrial land uses within the neighborhood except possibly within the East Gardner Specific Plan area.
 - e. Support neighborhood-scale residential infill development.

